

About the VCU Guitar Program

The VCU Guitar Program is a vibrant part of the VCU Department of Music. Several of our alumni are teaching at VCU and at other universities, including Norfolk State University, the College of William and Mary, Christopher Newport University, the University of Richmond, and Randolph-Macon College. In addition, several of our graduates are currently teaching in Virginia public and private schools.

Each year, the *VCU Guitar Series* and the *Guitar and Other Strings Series* bring nationally and internationally acclaimed guitarists to the VCU campus for concerts and master classes. Past performers include William Kanengiser, Manuel Barrueco, Eliot Fisk, Dennis Koster, David Russell, Simon Dinnigan, the Washington Guitar Quintet, Charlie Byrd (jazz), John Jackson (blues), Torcuato Zamora (flamenco), Miguelito (flamenco), and Leo Kottke (finger-style).

The Jesús Silva Merit Scholarship provides financial assistance to outstanding undergraduate guitar majors.

Department of Music
Virginia Commonwealth University
922 Park Avenue, Room 132
PO Box 842004
Richmond, VA 23284-2004
804-828-1166
music@vcu.edu
arts.vcu.edu/music

vcuarts | music

An Afternoon of Classical Guitar

The VCU Guitar Ensemble
Directed by John Patykula

with special guest
John Bullard, classical banjo

3:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 15, 2020

Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall
922 Park Avenue
Richmond, VA 23284

VCU Guitar Ensemble *John Patykula, director*

Neill Baxter	Jasmine Lopez
Connor Borostovik	Ashley Purisima
Wesley Eldridge	Devin Sullivan
Ryan Evans	Johnny White
Aidan Guiffre	

The VCU Guitar Ensemble has been a part of the Richmond music scene since 1982. This unique ensemble's repertoire ranges from the Renaissance to the contemporary. In addition, this group frequently premieres new compositions and commissioned works by established arrangers and composers. The ensemble has been featured on several National Public Radio stations and on local television arts segments. The VCU Guitar Ensemble has performed at the 2008 and 2019 Experiencing Villa-Lobos International Festival at VCU, and on the 2009 and 2010 VCU Flamenco Festivals. For many years the ensemble was the featured group at the Chesterfield All-County Guitar Ensemble Festival.

John Bullard has attracted international attention for his work in developing and transcribing classical repertoire for the five-string banjo. His critically acclaimed CD releases include **John Bullard - The Classical Banjo** on the Dargason label and **Bach on the Banjo** on Albany Records. In 2005, he became the first classical banjoist to graduate from Virginia Commonwealth University's Department of Music with a Bachelor of Music degree in Performance. Graduating magna cum laude, John was inducted into **Pi Kappa Lambda**, the prestigious national music honor society. Music from John's recordings has been included in several feature films such as the DreamWorks animated film **The Rise of the Guardians** and the award winning **The Edge of Heaven**. John's classical banjo playing was highlighted in the June 2005 issue of **Vintage Guitar Magazine**. He has published two books with Mel Bay Publications, **Bach for the Banjo** and **Scales and Arpeggios for Classical Banjo**. John is also included in Mel Bay Publication's popular book and CD collection **Banjo 2000** featuring works by the world's finest banjoists. John's virtuoso playing was the focus of a cover story and interview in the May 1993 issue of **The Banjo Newsletter**. John was on the faculty of the world-renowned **Tennessee Banjo Institute** along with such luminaries as Pete Seeger, Bela Fleck and Tony Trischka. He has performed throughout the United States and has been featured on numerous radio and television programs. His most recent CD, **Classical Banjo: The Perfect Southern Art**, has been praised "as exceptionally brilliant as it is masterful."

Program

Kemp's Jig/Toye for Lutes/Saltarello	Renaissance selections arr. J. Bullard/J. Patykula
John Bullard, classical banjo soloist with the VCU Guitar Ensemble	

Prelude No. 1 in C Major from 24 Preludes for Solo Banjo	Adam Larrabee
John Bullard, classical banjo	

Golden Slumbers	McCartney/Lennon, arr. Adam Larrabee
Ashley Purisima, guitar soloist with the VCU Guitar Ensemble	

Etude in A Major	Matteo Carcassi
Wesley Eldridge, guitar	

The Fisherman's Song	Manuel de Falla, arr. J. Patykula
VCU Guitar Ensemble	

Etude in A minor	Matteo Carcassi
Johnny White, guitar	

Autumn	Isaac Albéniz, arr. J. Patykula
The VCU Guitar Ensemble	

Romanza en Imitación al Violoncello	Agustín Barrio Mangore
Ashley Purisima, guitar	

Passacaglia	G.F. Handel
VCU Guitar Ensemble	